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Market News

Issued LIVESTOCK DIVISION Weekly

MARKET REVIEWS AND STATISTICS

Vol. 24, No. 4 January 24, 1956

Week ended January 21

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UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION
Washington 25, D. C.

AGRI-WASH

MIDWEST LIVESTOCK REVIEW

Cattle receipts were considerably smaller than a week earlier but were very unevenly distributed. Monday's receipts were unusually large and prices of fed cattle declined. Marketings were substantially reduced later, due in part to heavy snows and slippery roads, and early declines were largely regained. With few exceptions, fed steers closed steady to 50¢ higher. Cows and heifers sold unevenly 50¢ higher to 50¢ lower. Movement of hogs was curtailed and prices advanced mostly 25-75¢, with butchers at several points reaching highest levels since mid-November. Increased receipts of lambs were in good demand and prices advanced.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES

The week's receipts of salable cattle at 12 markets were with the exception of holiday weeks smallest since late last summer. However, the extremely uneven distribution of daily receipts at least partially offset the otherwise bullish influence of the week's smaller run. Monday's receipts at 12 markets were more than 50% of the week's supply while at Chicago the Monday run of more than 27,000 was among the largest one-day runs in many years. This unusually liberal movement Monday resulted in considerable pressure on prices, with sizable carryovers at several markets. Sluggishness in wholesale beef was an added factor in the fat cattle trade. After Monday marketings were substantially reduced and trade showed gradual improvement. With the exception of a weak to 50¢ lower trend on considerable numbers of steers at Omaha and St. Joseph, late sales of slaughter steers at midwest terminals were mainly steady to 50¢ higher. Heifers and cows sold unevenly 50¢ higher to 50¢ lower, best action on cows being on Canners and Cutters. Prices of bulls declined while calf and vealer prices were not greatly changed. Steers again made up a liberal proportion of slaughter offerings, with average weights continuing rather heavy. Kansas City received the largest run of grain-feds since January 1953. At Chicago 25.6% of the beef steers graded Prime, while the average weight of 1156 pounds was 60 pounds heavier than a year ago. A dozen loads average- to high-Prime steers sold at Chicago from $24.25-24.75; bulk Choice and Prime $17.50-24.00; most Good steers $15.50-18.50; bulk Good and Choice at other Corn Belt markets from $15.50-20.50. Sales of heavy steers at Chicago included high-Prime 1300/1361# $24.00; two loads Prime 1450# $22.75; 1500# $21.00, and 1665# $18.50. At Omaha Prime 1473# brought $21.00, 1640# $18.50. At Sioux City Prime 1731# cashed at $18.00; high-Choice and Prime 1397# $20.50, same grade 1705 and 1722# $16.00.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES

Marketings of stocker and feeder cattle and calves were seasonally moderate and showed little change from those of a week and a year ago. A fairly large percent of receipts at some markets consisted of 700-950# steers, while a materially smaller number of high-Good and Choice lighterweight stockers were available than in the previous week. At Kansas City, the average weight of all steers shipped to the country during the week was 743# compared with 711# the previous week and 734# a year ago. Trading was rather uneven and buyers often were inclined to proceed slowly not only because of the unfavorable price relationship between fats and feeders but also due to adverse weather in some areas. Even so, limited numbers frequently enabled salesmen to maintain prices on a steady basis with Good and Choice stockers in a few instances mildly stronger. However, at Kansas City, where supplies were larger than at most other centers, prices were steady to $1.00 lower and at Sioux City the trend was weak to 50¢ lower. The average cost of steers 500# up at Kansas City was $16.96, or 52¢ lower than a week earlier and $3.38 under a year ago. Meanwhile, the week's average price of $17.57 for all fed steers on that market was $6.32 under a year ago. The recent estimate of only one percent more cattle on feed than a year ago encouraged more optimistic thinking

among some cattle feeders in regard to fat cattle prices a month or two hence. However, as the respective average prices on replacements and fed steers indicate, there is little in the current price picture to stimulate demand for feeder cattle and most feedlot operators are reluctant to go above $17.00 on steers 600# up. A few Choice fleshy 750-850# steers sold from $17.50-18.50, but a moderate number of fairly well bred 800-950# steers cashed from $16.00-16.75. At the same time Choice 516# short yearling stockers reached $21.25 and load lots of Choice steer calves occasionally went from $21.00-23.00. A few Choice heifer calves brought $19.00 but majority sold downward from $17.50.

HOGS

Combined receipts of about 898,000 hogs at the 12 markets and in the Interior were well below the 1,064,000 the previous week and were about 7% below the average of the past 11 weeks. Marketings held up relatively better in the Eastern Corn Belt than in the Western part as receipts at Indianapolis were largest since mid-September. By contrast, the Interior run was smallest since early October. Packer buyers were usually aggressive but shipping demand was only moderate at most points, the outgo on shipping account at Chicago being smallest since October. The reduction in receipts, due in part to heavy snows and slippery roads, and substantial advances in wholesale prices of some fresh pork cuts were influences in the week's uneven upturns of 25-75¢ on butchers and sows compared with a week earlier. In several sections of the midwest, butchers reached highest prices since mid-November. Majority of the week's offerings consisted of hogs from last spring's crop although Eastern Corn Belt centers received a few late summer farrowed butchers. Price range is still quite wide, resulting in considerable unevenness, especially on butchers over 230#, lots of comparable weight and grade frequently selling 25-50¢ or more apart. Although there was very little sorting for grade within lots, butchers grading mainly No. 1 and 2 drew 25-75¢ price advantages over lots of the same weight grading mostly No. 2 and 3. Average weights of barrows and gilts at some markets show little change compared with a year ago while at some Missouri River points current weekly average weights are around 15# lighter than at this time last year. Stocker and feeder pig prices were strong to 50¢ higher. Good and Choice feeders brought $8.00-9.50 at South St. Paul and $9.25-9.75 at Sioux City, with some 131# feeders at Kansas City at $9.50. At Memphis a few lots of Good and Choice 90-120# feeders sold early from $9.50-10.50 with a fair supply of Common and Medium late from $8.00-9.00.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Marketings at the midwest terminals continued to expand, being about 25% larger than the previous week and largest since mid-October. Trading on the whole was active and slaughter lambs closed unevenly steady to $1.50 higher, late sales at most markets 25-75¢ higher. Ewes sold mainly steady to 50¢ higher. Feeder lambs sold unevenly, with prices at a number of points steady. At Omaha and Sioux City, however, feeders were steady to 50¢ higher, and at Fort Worth steady to 50¢ lower. Lambs 110# and heavier, and at some markets 105# up, were subjected to discounts of up to $2.00 or more per cwt. Most Good to Prime wooled lambs under 110# sold at $17.00-19.25, a few $19.50-19.75; same grades 111-137# $15.75-18.50. Shorn lambs 110# down with No. 1 to summer shorn fleeces bulked at $17.00-18.50, a few fall shorn $18.75-19.00, occasional lots with No. 3 pelts and some weighing up to 122# $16.00. Cull to low-Good lambs brought $12.00-17.50. Cull to Choice slaughter ewes sold at $3.00-7.50, and Medium to Choice feeder lambs brought $14.00-18.75.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW

Slowness in the wholesale and retail beef trade influenced a narrow outlet for slaughter steers, heifers and cows in the Far West with price concessions

Continued on page 82.

Market	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep	
	Jan. 21 1956	Jan. 22 1955	Jan. 21 1956	Jan. 22 1955	Jan. 21 1956	Jan. 22 1955	Jan. 21 1956	Jan. 22 1955
Chicago	45,503	45,601	1,156	1,372	76,272	64,123	17,212	14,894
Cincinnati	3,787	4,259	824	1,169	19,644	17,775	611	1,031
Denver	17,520	20,018	5,023	6,517	3,290	4,209	17,932	18,169
Fort Worth	7,578	10,331	1,987	2,211	2,706	2,069	14,681	13,658
Indianapolis	8,502	10,048	990	1,426	61,988	52,259	6,746	4,494
Kansas City	27,544	21,412	1,371	1,632	10,252	8,151	6,508	7,348
Oklahoma City	12,793	11,181	865	1,614	2,541	2,753	2,562	1,790
Omaha	41,740	47,684	992	1,214	63,399	56,358	16,817	19,458
St. Joseph	15,577	17,052	648	804	32,281	25,838	5,124	6,092
St. Louis NSY	17,902	17,222	2,742	3,721	65,775	52,530	9,098	7,676
Sioux City	23,102	28,065	1,435	1,111	57,840	51,485	12,523	14,440
S. St. Paul	23,214	21,241	11,322	10,880	86,625	68,352	16,723	13,244
Total	244,762	254,114	29,355	33,671	482,613	405,902	126,537	121,291
Jan. 14, 1956	286,704		36,621		551,994		102,358	

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Week ended:	Hogs	Sheep
Jan. 21, 1956	415,000	33,000
Jan. 14, 1956	512,000	29,000
Jan. 22, 1955	393,000	34,000

FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

	Week ended			Month		12 months
	Jan. 19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	Jan. 20 1955	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	Jan. - Dec. 1955
Steers – 1001# up	449	472	401	2,510	2,359	32,767
901-1000	1,576	1,553	1,858	7,296	7,240	86,644
801-900	4,245	4,211	4,244	16,377	16,641	163,061
701-800	5,092	4,368	4,102	18,445	18,036	245,933
501-700	10,302	9,417	11,895	31,876	40,166	583,739
Total steers 10 mkts.	21,664	20,021	22,500	76,504	84,442	1,112,144
Av. wts. " " "	711#	717#	701#	740#	722#	710#
Av.cost* " " "	$16.74	$16.62	$19.88	$15.42	$18.38	$18.27
" " " Chicago	16.28	17.05	20.07	16.18	19.14	19.28
" " " Ks. City	16.96	17.48	20.34	15.89	19.23	18.60
" " " Omaha	16.37	16.30	19.49	15.35	18.24	18.49
" " " S. St. Paul	15.37	15.10	17.41	14.12	16.64	16.58
" " " Sioux City	16.53	16.72	19.99	15.32	19.08	18.59
" " " Denver	18.19	16.47	23.23	15.67	20.35	19.11
" " " Ft. Worth	15.52	16.57	18.21	15.63	17.04	17.81
" " " Okla. City	16.07	16.30	17.93	15.30	17.05	17.50
" " " S. St. Joseph	16.05	16.67	19.42	15.29	18.09	17.84
" " " Natl. Stk. Yds.	16.37	16.05	18.21	15.39	17.51	17.45
Total calves–10 mkts.	12,625	11,058	14,549	43,440	57,838	551,959
" cows.						
heifers, bulls– " "	3,776	4,466	5,339	21,521	27,704	302,539

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	20 1955	19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	20 1955	19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	20 1955	19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	20 1955
CHICAGO												
Prime	7439	8988	2532	25.6	26.1	9.5	1244	1237	1142	21.85	21.89	32.71
Choice	14594	16890	14593	50.2	49.0	54.9	1162	1157	1129	19.63	20.34	27.19
Good	6322	7597	8063	21.8	22.0	30.3	1056	1051	1046	17.66	18.18	23.62
Com'l.	590	846	1164	2.0	2.4	4.4	997	965	941	14.69	15.16	19.19
Utility	111	178	231	.4	.5	.9	908	911	1013	12.80	12.74	14.57
All grades	29056	34499	26583				1156	1149	1096	19.74	20.20	26.30
OMAHA 1/												
Prime	729	682	292	3.9	4.1	1.6	1222	1214	1163	21.73	21.67	30.90
Choice	10657	9566	8965	56.9	57.9	49.6	1141	1121	1141	19.42	19.82	26.28
Good	5910	5067	7900	31.5	30.7	43.7	1106	1078	1047	17.06	17.22	22.66
Com'l.	1095	918	818	5.8	5.6	4.5	1046	1031	984	14.82	14.66	17.52
Utility	354	286	117	1.9	1.7	.6	939	934	872	12.68	12.80	14.54
All grades	18745	16519	18092				1124	1103	1092	18.43	18.75	24.43
SIOUX CITY 1/												
Prime	308	741	245	4.0	8.2	2.9	1195	1213	1143	21.24	21.63	31.00
Choice	4514	4476	3458	58.2	49.5	40.8	1149	1133	1121	19.76	20.10	26.41
Good	2403	2973	4491	31.0	32.9	52.9	1087	1069	1086	17.59	17.87	23.09
Com'l.	480	731	269	6.2	8.1	3.2	1033	1008	1051	14.74	15.15	17.91
Utility	44	124	18	.6	1.3	.2	1096	942	878	11.85	12.38	14.05
All grades	7749	9045	8481				1124	1106	1100	18.84	19.08	24.54
KANSAS CITY 1/												
Prime	89	76	142	.9	.9	2.2	1203	1220	1119	20.68	21.01	29.93
Choice	4326	3807	2606	42.5	44.0	41.2	1163	1139	1107	18.76	18.99	25.58
Good	4814	4376	3213	47.4	50.6	50.8	1056	1050	1018	16.95	17.16	22.73
Com'l.	816	348	227	8.0	4.0	3.6	1003	947	914	14.37	14.56	18.35
Utility	120	48	138	1.2	.5	2.2	978	938	871	12.60	12.28	16.30
All grades	10165	8655	6326				1098	1091	1050	17.57	17.92	23.89
ST. LOUIS NSY 1/												
Prime	2	26	--	.2	.4	--	1125	1098	--	22.49	22.71	--
Choice	1551	1733	662	23.0	29.2	16.9	1081	1103	1044	19.29	19.66	25.80
Good	3784	3029	2639	56.1	51.0	67.2	1041	1033	1003	17.25	17.27	22.50
Com'l.	1290	1037	549	19.1	17.4	14.0	1012	981	965	15.29	15.42	19.18
Utility	112	119	74	1.6	2.0	1.9	800	876	866	12.82	12.63	15.84
All grades	6739	5944	3924				1041	1041	1002	17.32	17.65	22.52
S. ST. JOSEPH 1/												
Prime	27	14	--	.4	.2	--	1068	1014	--	21.45	21.40	--
Choice	3860	4142	2169	52.2	55.8	28.8	1109	1133	1109	18.98	19.02	25.78
Good	3100	2599	4831	41.9	35.0	64.2	1077	1058	1030	16.26	16.77	22.53
Com'l.	349	580	433	4.7	7.8	5.8	1056	1044	967	14.04	14.57	18.16
Utility	64	84	93	.8	1.2	1.2	886	889	915	11.99	11.98	15.51
All grades	7400	7419	7526				1091	1097	1048	17.59	17.87	23.21

Continued.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	Jan. 19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	Jan. 20 1955	Jan. 19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	Jan. 20 1955	Jan. 19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	Jan. 20 1955	Jan. 19 1956	Jan. 12 1956	Jan. 20 1955
DENVER 1/												
Prime	10	294	14	.2	7.3	.3	1100	1134	946	23.56	22.46	27.00
Choice	2471	2487	3522	63.5	61.9	85.8	1139	1154	1088	19.58	20.07	25.82
Good	1369	1211	571	35.2	30.2	13.9	1117	1092	1076	18.12	18.30	24.28
Com'l.	38	23	--	1.0	.6	--	1234	1189	--	13.97	13.92	--
Utility	3	--	--	.1	--	--	1082	--	--	12.50	--	--
All grades	3891	4015	4107				1132	1134	1086	19.02	19.70	25.61

1/ These summaries developed from data collected on marketings of fed cattle by the Agricultural Estimates Division.

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Week ended	Beef		Veal		Pork (excl. lard)		Lamb and mutton		Total meat prod.	Total lard prod.
	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.		
	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	mil. lb.	mil. lb.
Jan. 21, 1956	398	222.1	129	14.4	1,615	213.2	302	14.5	464.2	58.9
Jan. 14, 1956	416	228.8	151	17.2	1,742	231.0	304	14.6	491.6	64.5
Jan. 7, 1956 1/	351	192.3	135	15.4	1,433	190.0	268	12.9	410.6	51.3
Jan. 22, 1955	369	199.8	126	14.6	1,318	185.3	302	14.4	414.1	48.5
Percentage change from:										
Jan. 14, 1956	-4	-3	-15	-16	-7	-8	-1	-1	-6	-9
Jan. 22, 1955	+8	+11	+ 2	- 1	+23	+15	0	+1	+12	+21

Week ended	Average weights (lb.)								Lard yield per 100 lb.
	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs		
	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed 2/	Live	Dressed	
Jan. 21, 1956	1,015	558	205	112	240	132	100	48	15.2
Jan. 14, 1956	1,010	550	210	114	242	133	100	48	15.3
Jan. 7, 1956	1,005	546	210	114	241	133	100	48	14.9
Jan. 22, 1955	990	541	209	116	246	141	100	48	15.0

1/ Actual slaughter and revised estimate of production. 2/ Excludes lard.

WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

City or Area	Cattle			Calves			Hogs			Sheep and lambs		
	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955
Boston, New York City Area	13,176	13,354	12,032	10,773	11,363	11,342	60,396	64,207	55,068	52,525	50,721	52,431
Baltimore, Philadelphia	8,553	8,995	7,642	1,120	1,191	916	32,880	33,722	26,099	2,543	2,474	1,452
Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls.	18,739	19,666	18,081	5,273	5,457	5,508	114,378	117,101	90,940	17,432	17,434	13,700
Chicago Area	27,589	28,172	27,697	7,430	7,514	7,186	60,200	65,798	67,835	7,460	7,281	8,170
St. Paul-Wis Areas	32,854	36,614	29,081	30,285	35,048	29,727	155,387	166,480	118,723	17,908	22,217	15,588
St. Louis Area	15,583	15,837	14,403	3,206	4,452	5,744	113,214	124,547	73,840	11,848	11,197	11,783
Sioux City	12,020	12,566	9,448	52	41	10	30,643	39,605	28,553	5,374	6,922	6,659
Omaha Area	37,136	37,621	36,614	1,078	1,022	842	104,695	123,102	88,439	18,042	18,454	20,603
Kansas City	18,816	17,871	15,708	2,402	3,476	3,375	49,208	54,945	31,814	11,366	12,026	13,360
Iowa-So. Minnesota	31,459	31,816	30,582	13,964	15,209	11,382	366,212	384,622	318,004	34,824	35,746	38,750
Lou'l. Evan'l. Nash'l. Mph's.	9,260	10,841	10,118	6,629	8,032	6,433	57,842	62,321	41,439	Not available.		
Georgia-Alabama Area	6,511	7,327	6,379	3,070	3,031	3,210	37,800	38,768	24,962	--	--	--
St. Jo'ph. Wichita, Okla. City	22,680	22,314	21,334	3,469	5,280	3,361	78,576	93,684	59,589	13,578	13,855	14,738
Ft. Worth, Dallas, San Antonio	14,792	17,327	15,579	5,374	7,503	6,295	34,400	33,113	23,187	14,693	11,083	13,050
Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake City	18,273	18,669	18,220	766	1,278	959	21,733	23,248	18,690	21,446	20,123	17,289
Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas	30,350	33,523	25,889	3,674	3,700	2,586	43,767	45,215	36,262	33,210	31,953	33,730
Portland, Seattle, Spokane	7,950	8,771	7,353	509	794	604	24,574	26,239	15,498	4,710	5,159	5,306
Total	325,741	341,284	306,160	99,074	114,391	99,480	1,385,905	1,496,717	1,118,942	266,645	266,959	266,609

ESTIMATED PERCENT FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

Week ended	Chicago	Kansas City	Omaha	S. St. Joseph	St.Louis NSY	Sioux City	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	Denver	Fort Worth	Okla. City	Wichita	San Antonio
Feeders and stockers													
Jan. 20, 1956	3	27	9	16	5	30	5	6	40	15	55	27	40
Jan. 13, 1956	3	31	9	8	4	20	5	5	15	20	65	30	37
Jan. 21, 1955	3	31	9	11	4	22	10	8	10	25	60	39	50
Slaughter cows													
Jan. 20, 1956	11	10	12	13	18	12	35	16	10	15	13	20	25
Jan. 13, 1956	10	11	15	15	21	18	33	15	20	18	15	23	30
Jan. 21, 1955	13	13	11	10	24	9	34	30	12	20	15	29	27

CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Kansas City			Omaha		
	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955
Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers									
Steers -									
Prime 900-1100#	23.42	23.32	32.15	21.75	22.12	30.95	22.65	22.50	30.88
1100-1300	22.80	22.75	33.10	21.28	21.65	31.20	22.35	22.28	32.00
Choice 900-1100	20.85	21.15	28.50	19.52	19.58	27.05	20.20	20.28	27.75
1100-1300	19.85	20.02	28.45	19.12	19.30	27.05	19.68	19.68	27.50
Good 900-1100	17.80	18.10	23.05	16.58	16.55	22.10	17.12	17.38	22.00
Com'l. All wts.	14.78	14.95	18.30	14.50	14.50	18.25	14.75	15.00	17.50
Heifers -									
Prime 600-800#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice " "	19.58	20.00	25.35	19.12	19.18	24.25	19.25	19.62	24.75
Good 500-900	16.52	16.78	21.12	16.25	16.30	20.12	16.62	16.75	20.22
Com'l. All wts.	13.48	13.75	17.05	14.00	14.00	15.75	13.98	14.12	15.85
Cows - All weights									
Commercial	11.82	12.32	11.98	11.75	12.42	12.12	11.50	11.70	11.45
Utility	10.55	10.92	10.32	10.48	11.05	10.50	10.32	10.45	10.08
Canner & Cutter	9.18	9.50	8.80	8.98	9.52	8.88	9.08	9.18	8.45
Bulls - All weights -									
Good	12.75	12.90	12.75	--	--	--	12.88	13.20	11.55
Utility & Commercial	14.85	15.22	14.35	13.50	13.80	11.92	13.44	13.76	12.65
Vealers - All weights -									
Choice & Prime	28.00	28.00	27.50	22.00	22.00	23.00	19.60	19.00	18.50
Com'l. & Good	22.50	22.50	21.00	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.60	15.50	14.50
Calves - 500# down									
Choice & Prime	19.00	19.00	21.50	16.50	16.80	18.60	17.00	17.00	17.50
Com'l. & Good	14.50	14.50	16.00	14.00	14.30	15.10	14.00	14.00	13.75
Feeder and stocker cattle and calves									
Steers -									
Choice 500-800#	19.90	19.75	22.55	18.75	19.25	22.50	19.42	19.50	22.00
Good " "	17.50	17.50	20.30	17.00	17.50	20.00	17.50	17.50	20.00
Medium 500-1000	14.75	14.75	17.45	14.75	15.00	17.25	14.92	15.00	17.00
Heifers -									
Choice 500-750	17.00	17.05	19.00	16.25	16.25	19.00	16.50	16.50	18.00
Med. & Gd. " "	13.75	13.80	15.75	13.75	13.75	15.50	13.50	13.50	14.25
Cows - All weights -									
Medium & Good	--	--	--	10.25	10.50	11.00	10.50	10.62	10.12
Calves - 300-500# -									
Steers -									
Good & Choice	20.65	20.50	22.25	19.25	19.50	21.00	20.75	20.50	21.95
Heifers -									
Good & Choice	17.25	17.25	18.50	16.25	16.50	18.25	17.12	17.00	17.50

HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Interior Iowa and southern Minnesota			Indianapolis		
	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955
Barrows and gilts –									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	11.50	11.15	17.25	9.49	9.09	15.33	11.40	11.25	17.55
2 and 3 180-200	12.02	11.78	18.10	10.94	10.55	16.87	12.00	11.88	18.22
200-220	11.88	11.60	17.95	11.34	10.93	17.12	11.98	11.88	18.18
220-240	11.72	11.45	17.65	10.91	10.52	16.65	11.75	11.62	17.68
240-270	10.89	10.70	16.72	10.35	9.94	16.15	11.18	10.90	16.88
270-300	10.35	10.20	16.15	9.75	9.35	15.39	10.52	10.18	16.12
Sows –									
300-330#	9.85	9.70	15.40	9.58	9.16	14.85	9.72	9.20	15.45
360-400	9.38	9.20	14.98	8.96	8.52	14.27	9.15	8.75	15.00
450-550	8.70	8.50	13.88	8.24	7.89	13.11	8.28	7.85	14.20
Pigs (stocker and feeder)–									
Gd. & Ch. 70-120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Classification	Omaha			St. Louis National Stock Yards			Sioux City		
Barrows and gilts –									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	10.90	10.38	--	11.72	11.50	17.93	--	--	--
2 and 3 180-200	11.68	11.18	17.60	12.28	11.95	18.14	11.50	11.01	--
200-220	11.68	11.18	17.60	12.20	11.92	18.01	11.62	11.01	17.28
220-240	11.68	11.18	17.32	11.90	11.62	17.58	11.62	10.94	17.08
240-270	11.08	10.70	16.55	11.28	10.90	16.88	10.88	10.32	16.40
270-300	10.32	10.08	15.55	10.45	10.28	16.22	10.28	9.68	15.48
Sows –									
300-330#	9.60	9.08	15.02	9.60	9.25	15.65	9.78	9.38	15.08
360-400	9.60	9.08	15.02	9.22	8.88	15.28	9.48	8.95	14.68
450-550	8.88	8.45	14.02	8.72	8.38	14.35	8.80	8.18	13.72
Pigs (stocker & feeder)–									
Gd. & Ch. 70-120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Classification	S. St. Paul			Baltimore			N. Portland		
Barrows and gilts –									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	11.65	11.42	17.60	12.62	12.62	19.31	12.16	12.38	19.47
2 and 3 180-200	11.80	11.55	17.58	13.09	12.94	19.34	12.69	12.97	19.91
200-220	11.80	11.55	17.35	13.09	12.91	19.34	12.69	12.97	19.91
220-240	11.62	11.30	17.05	12.66	12.47	18.75	12.41	12.69	19.47
240-270	11.10	10.60	16.20	12.12	12.03	18.12	11.62	11.88	18.50
270-300	--	--	15.50	11.25	11.12	17.38	11.38	11.62	18.00
Sows –									
300-330#	9.38	8.98	15.08	9.56	9.58	16.00	10.56	10.75	17.25
360-400	8.92	8.48	14.52	9.56	9.54	15.97	10.06	10.25	16.75
450-550	8.48	8.20	13.68	8.28	8.25	13.66	9.47	9.75	15.75
Pigs (stocker & feeder)–									
Gd. & Ch. 70-120#	9.00	8.90	18.02	--	--	--	--	--	--

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

Week ended	Chicago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kansas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	8-mkts. combined
AVERAGE COST -				Dollars per 100 pounds					
Barrows and gilts Jan. 21,1956	11.03	11.62	11.47	11.09	10.99	11.42	11.11	11.50	11.24
Jan. 14,1956	10.92	11.35	10.99	10.70	10.48	11.04	10.70	11.34	10.90
Jan. 22,1955	16.74	17.51	17.22	16.51	16.13	17.11	16.61	17.46	16.83
Sows Jan. 21,1956	8.92	9.01	9.06	9.21	9.10	9.44	8.94	8.48	8.96
Jan. 14,1956	8.69	8.63	8.72	8.69	8.66	8.96	8.60	8.03	8.60
Jan. 22,1955	14.31	14.69	14.67	14.24	14.00	14.63	14.14	14.33	14.33
AVERAGE WEIGHT -				Pounds					
Barrows and gilts Jan. 21,1956	243	225	228	234	235	224	228	229	232
Jan. 14,1956	243	227	231	235	236	227	226	231	233
Jan. 22,1955	253	226	238	250	254	239	238	232	242
Sows Jan. 21,1956	437	435	437	422	417	410	426	467	434
Jan. 14,1956	451	438	433	417	409	419	421	477	435
Jan. 22,1955	462	433	451	447	444	426	436	472	450
NUMBER OF HEAD -									
Barrows and gilts Jan. 21,1956	63504	59035	9350	57264	52475	29144	78341	57784	406897
Jan. 14,1956	71418	63939	12557	74320	67622	35532	86262	53385	465035
Jan. 22,1955	53951	47960	7582	51747	46866	24016	61589	48242	341953
Sows Jan. 21,1956	6868	3517	645	3705	1930	1833	4109	3651	26258
Jan. 14,1956	7580	4132	1084	5829	3044	2513	4796	3934	32912
Jan. 22,1955	3577	2200	400	2465	1452	986	2225	2847	16152
SOWS				Percentage of total					
Jan. 21,1956	10	6	6	6	4	6	5	6	6
Jan. 14,1956	10	6	8	7	4	7	5	7	7
Jan. 22,1955	6	4	5	5	3	4	3	6	5

1/ Weighted average.

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
Jan. 21, 1956	$14.72	$12.02	+$2.70
Jan. 14, 1956	14.47	11.78	+ 2.69
Jan. 22, 1955	19.93	18.10	+ 1.83

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U.S. No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs 180-200# wt. Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Week ended	Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
Jan. 21, 1956	11.03	123.0	9.0
Jan. 14, 1956	10.92	124.5	8.8
Jan. 22, 1955	16.74	149.7	11.2

1/ Simple average price.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

		Chicago	Omaha	Kansas City	Fort Worth	Denver	Ogden & North Salt Lake	South San Francisco
LAMBS - 110# down (WOOLED) -								
Choice and Prime	Jan. 21, 1956	19.10	18.65	18.40	--	18.85	--	19.25
	Jan. 14, 1956	18.52	18.08	17.40	--	18.75	--	19.25
	Jan. 22, 1955	21.00	21.30	20.28	--	20.80	--	21.00
Good and Choice	Jan. 21, 1956	18.70	17.92	17.45	17.20	18.10	17.55	--
	Jan. 14, 1956	17.90	17.35	16.50	16.25	18.12	17.25	--
	Jan. 22, 1955	19.90	20.60	19.35	19.02*	19.65	19.90	20.00
EWES (WOOLED) -								
Good and Choice	Jan. 21, 1956	6.75	4.42	4.62	--	7.12	6.00	--
	Jan. 14, 1956	6.12	4.38	4.62	--	7.12	6.00	--
	Jan. 22, 1955	6.85	6.90	6.38	--	8.25	--	9.12
Cull and Utility	Jan. 21, 1956	5.25	3.50	3.62	--	5.25	3.75	--
	Jan. 14, 1956	4.75	3.50	3.62	--	5.25	3.75	--
	Jan. 22, 1955	5.60	5.55	5.25	--	6.12	--	5.00
FEEDER LAMBS -								
Good and Choice	Jan. 21, 1956	--	17.00	--	16.50	17.50	15.75	--
	Jan. 14, 1956	--	16.75	--	16.45	17.50	16.00	--
	Jan. 22, 1955	--	20.88	--	17.75	19.25	--	15.00

*Shorn basis.

TOTAL MEATS, MEAT PRODUCTS, AND BYPRODUCTS GRADED, OR CERTIFIED AS COMPLYING WITH SPECIFICATIONS BY THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CALENDAR YEAR, 1955

Month and year	Beef	Veal and calf	Lamb, yearling and mutton	Total	All other meats and lard	Grand total
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Jan.....	468,836	22,573	22,301	513,710	18,860	532,570
Feb.....	416,668	16,954	20,508	454,130	14,794	468,924
Mar.....	498,020	19,832	23,063	540,915	14,104	555,019
Apr.....	482,619	21,936	19,205	523,760	13,668	537,428
May.....	495,007	21,958	19,660	536,625	13,803	550,428
June.....	531,242	28,958	18,154	578,354	13,346	591,700
July.....	497,210	30,457	16,526	544,193	11,409	555,602
Aug.....	552,267	31,591	19,755	603,613	14,192	617,805
Sept.....	542,628	34,631	21,356	598,615	13,067	611,682
Oct.....	522,562	31,116	22,444	576,122	12,646	588,768
Nov.....	507,838	24,592	19,694	552,124	12,339	564,463
Dec.....	535,101	21,037	20,017	576,155	12,715	588,870
Year 1955..	6,049,998	305,635	242,683	6,598,316	164,943	6,763,259
Year 1954..	5,708,286	337,151	250,129	6,295,566	310,122	6,605,688

NEW YORK WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Western Dressed Fresh Meats

Receipts of Western dressed fresh meats in the Metropolitan area were mostly normal and fairly well distributed at local wholesale centers. Steer beef unloads included only a small percent of Prime carcasses. Preferred weights of lamb, 38 to 45#, were estimated at only 20 percent of the total and generally inadequate for trade needs. Demand was slow at the outset but developed to a fair degree around midweek when volume accounts became active in the trade. Good to Prime steer carcasses around 700# down along with the aforementioned lamb weights received buyer preference. However, as numbers of these dwindled, inquiry for steer ribs and arm chucks expanded and lamb hindsaddles were absorbed readily by most retailers, with chain outlets setting the pace. Prices for steer beef and veal worked weak to lower while lamb and fresh pork prices turned upward, pork loins closing unevenly higher. Compared with the previous week: Steer beef and veal steady to $2.00 lower; cow beef and calf steady to $1.00 lower; lamb $1.00-4.00 higher; pork loins $2.00-3.00 higher, other fresh pork cuts $1.00 lower to $2.00 higher.

Steer carcasses 600-700# closed at $37.00-40.00 for Prime, Choice $36.00-38.00; Prime 700-800# $36.00-38.00, Choice of the same weight $34.00-36.00; Good 500-700# $31.00-32.00. Commercial cow carcasses were quoted from $25.00-27.00, although only a handful of high-Commercial brought the outside figure. Utility sold under pressure at $22.00-24.00. Prime veal sold from $44.00-48.00, Choice $38.00-44.00. Choice and Prime lamb scaling 38-45# cleared readily at $38.00-40.00, with carcasses up to 55# at $35.00-38.00, 55-65# $32.00-35.00; Good lamb $33.00-36.00 with preferred weights mostly at the top figure.

Locally Dressed Fresh Meats

Slaughter figures for the first three days of the week reflected normal production of steer beef, veal and lamb while fresh pork output was fully normal. Trading ranged from fairly active to slow with best action around midweek. Buyer preference was shown for lightweight steer beef grading Choice and above, and for lamb scaling around 45#. Movement of veal was generally slow for both kosher and non-kosher cuts, as buyers operated cautiously. Easiness developed in prices for most primal steer cuts and realizations on veal carcasses were down. Lamb averaged fully steady despite an uneven demand. Fresh pork loins sold steady to strong while other fresh pork cuts cleared at steady prices.

Choice steer carcasses predominated with bulk consisting of weights 800# up. Supply of Good offerings was fairly large but Prime selections were rather scarce. Good to Prime steer carcasses around 700# down received first call from retailers and prices of these were well maintained. Heavier carcasses worked weak to lower with listings on hindquarters, rounds, plates and briskets revised downward. Kosher steer cuts encountered an uneven demand, which centered primarily on lean lightweight wholesale cuts. Prices were mostly unchanged.

The practical top on veal hindsaddles was off about $2.00, with declines shown on practically all grades and weights as retailers showed less urgency for supplies. Lamb offerings consisted mainly of carcasses in the 50-70# weight group. The relatively small quantity of Good to Prime carcasses around 45# down commanded top buyer interest and cleared readily at fully steady prices. Demand for hindsaddles broadened progressively and prices tended upward. Advances, however, were offset by weak to lower prices on foresaddle cuts, with a sharply lower trend on kosher lamb. Practically all fresh pork cuts cleared at steady to strong prices.

CHICAGO WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Beef, lamb, and veal supplies consisted principally of Good and Choice grades. Carcasses 55-65# predominated in the lamb supply, with veal mainly weights under 80#. Pork loins 8-12# were in smaller volume than 12-16#. Available supplies of all classes of fresh meats proved sufficient even though beef and pork decreased compared to liberal offerings of recent weeks. Trade on beef, lamb, and veal was rather slow. In beef cuts, rounds attracted fair demand, other cuts draggy. On Tuesday the movement of squarecut chucks slowed considerably compared to a fair movement Monday and late last week. Lamb loins and hindsaddles cleared quite readily. Veal carcasses 80-130# in all grades were in better demand than lighter weights. Trade on pork loins 8-16# was moderately active. While pork loin prices advanced sharply, Boston butts 4-8# and spareribs 3# down were only steady in a slow trade. Compared to last Thursday's close: Beef steady to 50¢ higher; veal steady to $1.00 lower; lamb 50¢ to $1.00 higher; pork loins 8-16# $3.00-4.00 higher, other pork cuts steady.

Choice and Prime squarecut beef chucks sold from $27.00-29.00; comparable rounds $40.00-43.00; Prime loins $73.00-77.00, Choice $60.00-64.00; Prime ribs $54.00-57.00, Choice $46.00-49.00; Choice and Prime kosher style chucks $28.00-30.00. Choice veal hindsaddles brought $55.00-57.00; comparable forequarters $23.00-25.00. Lamb hindsaddles turned at $44.00-51.00; legs $40.00-47.00; lamb loins $55.00-60.00; ribs $50.00-55.00, stews $13.00-18.00; shoulders $19.00-25.00.

PACIFIC COAST WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

A record kill of cattle and hogs in the Los Angeles area during the second week of January resulted in liberal supplies of beef and pork there with increased beef supplies also at other points. Volume of veal and calf was limited at most points while the lamb supply was moderate but adequate for the demand. Offerings of fresh and cured pork continued liberal. Trading was slow on most beef with some forced selling on heavier steer carcasses. Hindquarter cuts of beef were draggy with some larger chains featuring steaks for the weekend in an effort to clear accumulations. Movement of other carcass meats was fair to slow. Prices compared to last Friday: Most beef weak to $1.00 lower, instances on Choice 700-800# steer $2.00 off at Los Angeles; veal and calf steady, lamb mostly steady, instances $1.00 lower at Los Angeles; fresh pork largely steady, loins occasionally $2.00 higher at Los Angeles and $4.00 higher in the Northwest; cured pork steady to weak; lard steady to $2.00 lower, most of the decline at Los Angeles.

Choice steer carcasses under 600# sold mostly from $31.00-34.00, a few $35.00 at San Francisco and $36.00 in the Northwest, 700-800# $29.00-31.50; Choice heifer $1.00-3.00 below comparable steer; Good steer under 600# $28.00-34.00; Commercial $26.00-31.00; bulk Commercial cow beef $23.00-26.00; Utility $22.00-26.00; Canner and Cutter $17.00-22.00.

Good and Choice veal carcasses under 150# sold from $40.00-48.00; same grades calf under 300# $32.00-40.00, Commercial, all weights, $28.00-35.00. Choice and Prime lamb under 55# cashed at $38.00-39.00, some distributive sales to $40.00 at all points. Closely trimmed pork loins under 16# brought $32.00-39.00, few $41.00 in the Northwest; shoulders under 16# $20.00-30.00; spareribs under 3# $30.00-38.00; smoked skinned hams under 18# $41.00-50.00; slab bacon under 10# $28.00-40.00; sliced 1# packages $36.00-44.00; lard in 1# cartons $12.50-15.50.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	New York			Chicago			San Francisco		
	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955	21 1956	Jan. 14 1956	22 1955
Beef –									
Steer –									
Prime 600–700#	38.50	40.50	--	36.85	37.75	52.40	--	--	--
700–800	37.00	38.50	50.00	36.85	37.75	52.40	--	--	--
Choice 500–600	--	--	--	36.05	36.10	44.95	34.50	35.50	42.50
600–700	37.00	37.00	46.50	36.05	36.10	45.30	33.25	33.85	41.50
Good 350–600	31.50	31.50	42.00	30.70	30.55	37.50	32.75	32.75	40.00
Com'l. " "	29.50	29.50	37.50	28.25	28.20	32.50	29.00	29.00	37.00
Cow, all wts. –									
Commercial	26.00	27.00	29.00	--	--	--	26.50	26.50	29.70
Utility	23.00	23.00	24.50	--	--	--	24.50	24.50	24.90
Veal –									
Prime 80–110#	46.50	48.50	47.00	44.50	44.50	47.00	--	--	--
Choice " "	42.50	43.50	44.50	40.80	41.00	43.50	--	--	--
Good " "	35.00	36.20	39.50	36.60	37.00	38.05	44.00	44.00	43.00
Lamb –									
Prime 40–50#	38.00	36.80	44.80	36.05	36.40	43.50	39.00	39.00	42.00
50–60	35.00	33.60	44.80	32.30	32.85	42.00	37.00	37.00	41.00
Choice 40–50	38.00	36.80	42.90	36.05	36.40	42.50	39.00	39.00	42.00
50–60	35.00	33.00	42.90	32.30	32.85	41.00	37.00	37.00	40.00
Good all wts.	34.50	31.30	41.00	31.70	32.35	40.00	36.50	36.50	38.00
Pork – Fresh –									
Loins 8–10# av.	33.70	31.90	45.60	32.50	29.65	43.50	36.90	37.60	49.00
10–12 "	33.70	31.90	45.60	32.50	29.65	43.50	37.50	37.70	45.00
12–16 "	32.20	30.80	42.50	30.55	28.25	40.30	35.00	35.80	45.00
Butts 4–8 "	28.50	28.90	36.50	24.85	25.20	34.50	32.50	32.50	44.00
Pork – Cured –									
Hams, smk., skd. –									
12–16# av.	43.00	43.00	54.50	45.80	45.55	51.05	48.50	48.50	56.00
16–18 "	40.50	41.50	47.00	43.35	43.00	47.80	46.00	46.00	52.00
18–20 "	--	--	--	42.05	42.85	46.70	--	--	--
Bacon, smk., slab –									
6–8# av.	--	--	--	35.05	35.85	56.00	38.00	38.00	57.50
8–10 "	33.50	34.00	51.50	33.10	33.35	52.50	37.00	37.00	54.00
Sliced 1 # pkg.	38.50	38.50	53.25	38.00	38.30	55.50	40.50	40.50	58.50
Picnics, smoked –									
4–8# av.	22.00	22.00	35.50	27.20	26.50	34.30	30.00	30.00	36.00
Backs, D. S. –									
16–20# av.	15.00	15.00	16.00	11.50	11.00	15.50	--	--	--
Lard, 1# cartons –									
Refined	16.00	16.00	17.00	13.75	14.05	16.55	16.50	17.50	18.50
Substitutes	--	--	--	25.00	24.80	27.50	--	--	--

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed meats.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

Turnover of greasy domestic worsted wools in the Boston market was about the same as during the previous week with approximately twenty-one cars of various combing wools sold. Prices of most wools held firm and unchanged with Texas wools slightly higher. Integrated mills and topmakers were in the market. Movement of scoured wools and noils for spring and summer goods has subsided and handlers expect the fall season to be in full swing around mid-February. Good to choice white wools from 48s to 58/60s were scarce and in demand at firm prices. Trading in the domestic primary areas was practically at a standstill. A little early shorn lambs wool was purchased in Texas.

Early in the week trading in the Australian markets was very animated with the Continent, Bradford and Japan active. The New Zealand sales opened 2½% lower and closed firm under general competition with United States buyers supporting while quotations from South Africa were up about two cents and competition was general. Prices at South American markets continued firm to strong.

Fleece Wools - Graded fine staple Ohio delaine wool sold at $1.30-1.32 clean basis while graded fine fleece wool, irregular in length, brought $1.20 and average to short French combing fine fleeces moved at $1.17. Graded 56/58s good French combing and staple fleece wool sold at $1.03 while 50/54s Missouri good French combing and staple wool brought around 96½¢.

Territory Wools - Good style graded fine, good French combing and staple territory wool sold at $1.32 clean basis while poor style fine wool brought $1.25.

Graded 62s good French combing and staple moved at $1.25 while 60/62s sold at $1.22 and 56/58s good French and staple brought $1.12-1.14.

Texas Wools - Bulk average to good French combing 12 months Texas wool in original bags sold at $1.35 clean basis. Early shorn greasy lambs wool was estimated to cost clean around $1.10-1.15 delivered Boston.

Mohair - In some sections of Texas, fair weights of mohair were contracted at 83½¢-86½¢ for adult and $1.05-1.06½ for kid mohair to the warehouse. Trading in the Boston mohair market continued quiet.

Sales of CCC Wools - The Commodity Credit Corporation announced on January 19 that approximately 3,258,000 pounds of C.C.C. owned wool, from bids received on about 23 million pounds, were sold. The principal grades, quantity and sales price ranges follow:

	Pounds	Price Range
Graded territory 1/2 blood staple and good French	242,032	$1.236-1.25
" " 3/8s " " " " "	666,988	1,155-1.17
" " 1/4 " " " " " 48/50s	155,240	1.063-1.071
O. B. Texas 12 months good French and staple	159,746	1.381-1.392
" " " 12 " average and good French	312,015	1.34 -1.376
Fall Texas, best length	200,961	1.08 -1.102
Graded fleece 1/2 blood staple and good French	143,080	1.18 -1.20
" " 3/8s " " " " "	579,848	1.081-1.103
" " 1/4 " " " " " 48/50s	439,875	1.026-1.051

Foreign Wools - Spot Montevideo super-skirted 60/58s sold around $1.26 clean basis, duty paid while spinners style merino 7 to 9 months and 6 to 8 months Cape wools brought around $1.44 and a 64s Australian combing fleece wool moved around $1.57 clean basis, duty paid. Montevideo super-skirted wools sold for shipment as follows: 60s at 64-3/4¢; 56/58s at 65¢ and 64-3/4¢ and 50s at 65¢; all grease basis, in bond.

Carpet Wools - The carpet wool market was active for any spot or nearby wools but offerings were scarce. The Liverpool auctions closed on a quiet tone and slightly easier compared to the previous sale. Spot India good super yellows sold at 87½¢ clean fibers present while inferior coarse light yellow wool brought 82½¢. Pakistan/India good white wools were quoted around 94-95¢.

MEATS AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS PREPARED AND PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

Product	Week ended Dec. 10, 1955	Dec. 17, 1955	Dec. 24, 1955	Dec. 31, 1955
	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#
Placed in cure -				
Beef	2,536	3,749	3,177	4,100
Pork	87,547	84,233	69,236	70,263
Other	24	19	79	22
Smoked and/or dried -				
Beef	838	893	1,488	1,769
Pork	62,705	68,360	52,008	50,121
Cooked meat -				
Beef	1,782	1,705	1,381	1,506
Pork	7,801	8,699	6,735	6,320
Other	80	82	68	79
Sausage -				
Fresh finished	5,703	5,487	4,633	5,600
To be dried or semi-dried	2,520	2,567	2,384	2,463
Franks, wieners	10,795	10,575	9,314	10,143
Other, smoked or cooked	11,095	11,329	9,633	10,063
Loaf, head cheese, chili, jellied products	4,448	3,675	3,289	3,110
Steaks, chops, roasts	16,029	15,375	13,444	13,172
Bouillon cubes, extract	10	8	9	7
Sliced bacon	20,713	19,534	15,923	17,889
Sliced, other	2,948	2,941	2,619	2,962
Hamburger	3,028	3,314	2,552	2,714
Miscellaneous meat product	1,675	1,411	1,395	1,214
Lard, rendered	59,326	60,086	53,479	49,228
Lard, refined	35,220	37,183	32,970	35,922
Oleo stock	2,215	2,061	1,893	1,876
Edible tallow	3,629	3,230	3,138	3,436
Rendered pork fat -				
Rendered	2,751	2,342	2,411	2,665
Refined	1,049	1,735	1,585	1,763
Compound containing animal fat	10,752	10,386	9,580	8,704
Oleomargarine " " "	738	854	766	645
Canned product (for civilian use and Dept. of Defense)	51,810	52,642	43,883	40,321
Total 1/	409,766	414,475	349,074	348,077

1/ This figure represents "inspection pounds" as some of the products may have been inspected and recorded more than once due to having been subjected to more than one distinct processing treatment, such as curing first, then canning.

2/ Included with "Luncheon meat" prior to March 6.

MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS PREPARED AND PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - Continued

Product	Week ended - 1955							
	Dec. 10		Dec. 17		Dec. 24		Dec. 31	
	3 lb. or over	Under 3 lb.	3 lb. or over	Under 3 lb.	3 lb. or over	Under 3 lb.	3 lb. or over	Under 3 lb.
Canned product (For civilian use only)	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#
Luncheon meat	4,044	3,356	4,420	3,135	4,069	3,627	4,003	3,138
Canned hams	6,338	132	6,264	153	5,500	193	5,659	115
Corned beef hash	148	1,179	62	1,659	48	1,095	49	1,627
Chili con carne	274	3,758	322	3,315	91	2,838	92	2,819
Viennas	32	1,020	60	1,102	43	1,126	53	713
Franks, wieners in brine	1	115	1	120	1	129	—	96
Deviled ham	—	32	—	136	—	152	—	243
Other potted or deviled meat food products	—	820	3	894	2	788	—	567
Tamales	28	837	80	1,014	26	631	115	440
Sliced dried beef	1	84	14	71	2	60	5	73
Chopped beef 2/	1	635	—	582	—	441	1	290
Meat stew (all products)	19	2,014	99	3,010	7	1,784	47	816
Spaghetti meat products	30	1,410	43	1,120	19	276	16	1,136
Tongue (other than pickled)	7	77	16	74	11	82	17	81
Vinegar pickled products	264	392	284	387	243	369	233	360
Bulk sausage	—	268	—	361	—	365	—	299
Hamburger, rstd. or crned. beef, meat and gravy	39	839	266	776	38	794	36	825
Soups	688	13,611	436	13,204	225	12,242	223	11,018
Sausage in oil	71	28	81	292	40	51	33	55
Tripe	—	182	176	170	—	170	1	118
Brains	22	91	15	88	32	60	12	67
Canned loins and picnics	660	68	605	21	668	43	608	46
All other with meat and/or meat byproducts -								
20% or more	247	2,126	193	2,258	99	2,171	47	1,380
Less than 20%	167	3,592	106	4,623	10	2,088	31	2,384
Total	13,080	36,664	13,545	38,565	11,172	31,577	11,279	28,707

Note: See footnote at bottom of page 78.

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INSPECTED STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS FROM PUBLIC STOCKYARDS
DECEMBER 1955 - WITH COMPARISONS

Cattle and Calves

Market origin	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	State destination	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954
	Number	Number		Number	Number
Baltimore	1,238	1,735	Pennsylvania	9,367	7,600
Chicago	6,238	7,246	Ohio	8,580	8,615
Cincinnati	647	1,075	Indiana	7,093	8,412
Clovis	11,860	10,112	Illinois	27,782	29,593
Denver	27,330	19,340	Michigan	3,594	3,160
Detroit	1,809	1,624	Wisconsin	1,238	1,343
Fort Worth	13,013	19,388	Minnesota	20,397	16,500
Indianapolis	3,015	4,371	Iowa	58,522	77,383
Kansas City	35,858	40,250	Missouri	20,001	22,408
Lancaster	8,123	6,237	South Dakota	8,807	14,406
Los Angeles	10,401	10,113	Nebraska	27,253	37,332
Louisville	2,708	2,398	Kansas	20,901	27,612
Nashville	697	1,044			
Ogden	19,529	17,440	Maryland	984	992
Oklahoma City	32,275	23,019	Virginia	575	288
Omaha	26,133	37,978	Kentucky	2,188	1,888
St. Louis area 1/	10,953	9,936	Tennessee	2,039	3,300
San Antonio	16,326	22,343			
Sioux City	37,761	46,754	Oklahoma	24,544	13,730
Sioux Falls	12,443	16,119	Texas	30,576	34,529
S. St. Joseph	10,150	11,259	Colorado	21,331	14,052
S. St. Paul	19,855	19,936	Utah	5,765	2,422
Wichita	9,582	10,834	California	43,106	46,525
All other inspected 2/	75,916	86,354	All other 2/	49,217	54,815
Total 2/	393,860	426,905	Total 2/	393,860	426,905

Sheep and Lambs

Chicago	1,423	2,258	Ohio	1,349	3,621
Denver	21,543	15,180	Indiana	1,024	782
Fort Worth	2,689	7,575	Illinois	6,264	4,926
Kansas City	1,203	3,350	Michigan	1,131	2,276
Louisville	99	--	Wisconsin	906	1,026
Ogden	33,267	15,289	Minnesota	12,998	17,424
Omaha	3,906	5,536	Iowa	24,294	33,681
St. Louis area 1/	1,218	1,228	Missouri	13,751	7,316
Salt Lake City	17,785	21,399	South Dakota	7,128	10,594
Sioux City	6,702	12,601	Nebraska	13,562	21,244
Sioux Falls	7,864	11,944	Kansas	978	2,955
S. St. Joseph	12,009	1,344	Kentucky	101	3
S. St. Paul	19,573	29,570	Texas	3,486	4,473
			Colorado	12,826	4,095
			Utah	2,537	1,184
All other			California	50,586	33,939
inspected 2/	34,628	34,551	All other 2/	10,988	12,286
Total 2/	163,909	161,825	Total 2/	163,909	161,825

1/ Includes St. Louis National Stockyards, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo.
2/ Excludes Hawaii.

Compiled by the Agricultural Estimates Division, Agricultural Marketing Service from Inspection Records of Animal Quarantine Branch, Agricultural Research Service.

Stocker and feeder cattle and sheep received in several Corn Belt States 1/
December 1955, with comparisons

Cattle and Calves

State	Public Stock Yards		Direct		Total		Cumulative Total	
	December		December		December		July-Dec. incl.	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
Ohio	9,895	8,828	3,505	1,711	13,400	10,539	125,107	102,009
Indiana	7,903	9,001	4,865	4,648	12,768	13,649	160,266	154,938
Illinois	32,404	33,202	84,779	30,702	117,183	63,904	794,849	757,375
Michigan	3,779	4,137	2,480	3,277	6,259	7,414	67,261	54,499
Wisconsin	1,567	1,250	2,108	639	3,675	1,889	27,053	29,498
Minnesota	13,769	7,674	25,786	19,337	39,555	27,011	272,112	228,697
Iowa	88,942	99,393	66,594	37,954	155,536	137,347	1,214,751	1,252,852
South Dakota	9,367	15,322	864	2,859	10,231	18,181	58,703	79,916
Nebraska	31,652	44,066	29,294	31,140	60,946	75,206	350,496	477,632
Total 9 States	199,278	222,873	220,275	132,267	419,553	355,140	3,070,598	3,137,416

Sheep and Lambs

Ohio	1,348	3,324	432	349	1,780	3,673	51,004	38,471
Indiana	1,648	1,928	577	561	2,225	2,489	94,790	92,850
Illinois	5,836	6,004	630	3,773	6,466	9,777	221,236	213,252
Michigan	1,131	2,204	265	--	1,396	2,204	28,130	21,578
Wisconsin	746	1,062	--	--	746	1,062	17,950	31,756
Minnesota	14,963	23,066	3,818	5,040	18,781	28,106	191,886	197,542
Iowa	31,111	29,472	21,767	46,341	52,878	75,813	701,377	653,447
South Dakota	7,581	10,689	2,884	3,733	10,465	14,422	94,902	124,693
Nebraska	20,677	19,258	45,241	28,848	65,918	48,106	500,363	675,083
Total 9 States	85,041	97,007	75,614	88,645	160,655	185,652	1,901,638	2,048,672

1/ Data in this report are obtained from offices of State Veterinarians. Under "Public Stockyards" are included stockers and feeders which were bought at stockyards markets. Under "Direct" are included stockers and feeders coming from other States from points other than public stockyards, some of which are inspected at public stockyards while stopping for feed, water, and rest en route.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates Division
Washington, D. C.

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WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 65

necessary at most points to facilitate the movement of these classes. Late sales of slaughter steers and heifers were steady to $1.00 lower at western terminals except for mild strength at Spokane and for a 25-50¢ advance at Denver on steers over 1150#. In direct trading the price trend on both classes was weak to 50¢ lower. Cows sold 50¢-$1.75 lower at California points, steady to weak at Portland and Ogden, and steady to 50¢ higher at Spokane and Denver. Stockers and feeders were largely weak to $1.00 lower but steady to strong in some instances. Vealers and slaughter calves brought mostly steady to weak prices. Barrows and gilts were in good demand at steady to 75¢ higher prices and slaughter lambs sold steady to strong, instances 50¢ higher at Spokane and Ogden.

At most western terminals Choice slaughter steers under 1200# brought $19.00-20.50, some down to $17.50 at Spokane and Ogden, with a few loads average to high-Choice $21.00-21.50 at Denver. Good steers ranged from $15.00-19.00, bulk $16.00-18.00, Commercial $13.00-16.00. High-Good to Choice slaughter heifers earned $16.50-19.50, average to high-Choice sparingly $19.75-20.00 at Denver; Good heifers mostly $14.50-16.50. Utility and Commercial cows sold from $9.50-13.50, young Commercial fed cows $13.75-14.00; Canners and Cutters $7.00-10.50. Good to Prime vealers cleared from $20.00-27.00, a few reaching $28.50 at Portland; Good and Choice slaughter calves $16.00-20.50, Choice to $22.00 at Stockton. Most Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers brought $16.00-19.25, load Choice 614# yearlings $20.00 at Stockton; Good and Choice stocker and feeder heifers $14.50-16.25, load Choice 625# open heifers $16.75 at Denver.

Choice fed steers 1250# down sold out of California feedlots from $18.50-19.75, few under 1050# $19.75-20.00; Good and Choice heifers $16.00-18.00; sales f.o.b. feedlot at 4 to 5% shrink. Few loads Good and Choice 650-830# stocker and feeder steers out of Utah and Montana brought $16.00-17.50.

Mixed lots U. S. No. 1 to 3 180-240# barrows and gilts sold late in the week at $13.00 at South San Francisco; $13.50 at Stockton; $12.50-13.25 at Los Angeles; $12.00-13.25 at Portland; $13.25 at Spokane; $12.50-13.00 at Ogden, and $11.25-12.50 at Denver.

Good and Choice fall shorn to full wooled slaughter lambs brought $17.00-18.75, several loads Choice and Prime $19.00 at Denver, with Choice full wooled up to $19.50 at South San Francisco. Few loads Good and Choice lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts brought $17.25-17.75 at Denver. Direct trade on slaughter lambs was quiet, sales including a few loads Good and Choice lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts in the Imperial Valley at $19.00, f.o.b. Valley with 4% shrink.